FILED

## IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MOHAVE SEP - MILL: 50

IN THE MATTER OF:

AUTHORIZING APPOINTED
GUARDIANS AD LITEM FOR
DEPENDENT CHILDREN TO SERVE AS
LEGAL COUNSEL FOR DEPENDENT
CHILDREN TO COMPLY WITH A.R.S. §
8-221 AND ANTICIPATED REVISIONS
TO THE ARIZONA RULES OF
JUVENILE PROCEDURE

SUPERIOR LOURY CLEAR

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2021-00031

WHEREAS, the current practice of the Mohave County Superior Court is to assign licensed attorneys as Guardians Ad Litem for dependent children; and,

WHEREAS, in recognition of a recent amendment to A.R.S. § 8-221, as well as anticipated revisions to the Arizona Rules of Juvenile Procedure, which require the appointment of legal counsel for dependent children; and,

WHEREAS, to serve the interests of judicial economy, to avoid unnecessary filings for substitution of counsel for children in pending dependency cases, and to comply with this change in law, the Court hereby finds it appropriate in cases where there is not currently legal counsel appointed to issue a general order designating appointed Guardians Ad Litem as legal counsel of record for dependent children;

**NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that every Guardian Ad Litem appointed to represent a dependent child shall serve as the child's legal counsel <u>in cases where there is not currently legal counsel appointed for the dependent child</u>.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any Guardian Ad Litem who objects to appointment as legal counsel in a particular case must file such objection, with particularized facts supporting such, within the next ten days.

**DATED** this <u>3/</u> day of August, 2021.

Hon. Rick A. Williams

Presiding Juvenile Judge

Mohave County Superior Court

Original filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court in Mohave County